

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NICE 00145 251745Z
ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMCONSUL NICE
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INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS
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AMCONSUL LYON
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AMCONSUL STRASBOURG

UNCLAS NICE 145

E.O. 11652 : N/A
TAGS : PINT, FR
SUBJECT : MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS 1977 : RESULTS OF SECOND ROUND
IN NICE DISTRICT
REF : NICE 134 AND PREVIOUS

1. SUMMARY - NEVER BEFORE HAS AN ELECTION IN THIS AREA OF FRANCE BEEN SO CLOSE IN SO MANY CITIES. THE SUCCESSFUL CANDIDATES, WHETHER FROM THE MAJORITY OR THE COMMON PROGRAM, OFTEN WON BY VERY FEW VOTES. IN NICE, JACQUES MEDECIN BARELY SQUEAKED IN THE DOOR WITH A 966 VOTE LEAD OVER HIS COMMUNIST OPPONENT. IT APPEARS THAT THE ECOLOGISTS AND JOBERTISTS CHOSE TO ABSTAIN IN NICE RATHER THAN CHOOSING BETWEEN MEDECIN AND THE P.C. IN THE SECOND ROUND IN NICE, 36 % OF THE VOTERS STAYED AWAY FROM THE POLLS VS. 29 % ON MARCH 13TH. DE FONTMICHEL, THE INCUMBENT IN GRASSE, LOST TO HIS COMMUNIST OPPONENT BY ONLY 366 VOTES. IN ANOTHER CLOSE RACE, SENATOR FRANCIS PALMERO, INCUMBENT IN MENTON, WAS NARROWLY BEATEN BY R.P.R. DEPUTY A. AUBERT. END SUMMARY

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2. THROUGHOUT THE DEPARTMENT, THE STRONG TENDENCY TOWARDS COMMON PROGRAM CANDIDATES EVIDENCED IN THE FIRST ROUND, WAS REINFORCED LAST SUNDAY WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE CITIES OF VENCE, ST LAURENT DU VAR AND VILLEFRANCHE-SUR-MER, WHERE MODERATE CANDIDATES WERE ELECTED BY SMALL MARGINS. MEDECIN'S NARROW VICTORY IN NICE IS WIDELY CONSIDERED AS MUCH AS AN INDICATION OF GENERAL DISSATISFACTION OF THE

PUBLIC WITH CITY MANAGEMENT AS A VOTE IN FAVOR OF THE LEFT. IN ADDITION, MANY NICOIS WERE DISSATISFIED WITH THE COMPOSITION OF MEDECIN S LIST. IN SPITE OF THE FACT THAT THE LEADERS OF THE JOBERTIST/ECOLOGIST LIST IN NICE GAVE THEIR TACIT SUPPORT TO THE COMMON PROGRAM CANDIDATE, MANY FEEL THAT THE JOBERTISTS AS WELL AS THE ECOLOGISTS ABSTAINED FROM VOTING IN THE SECOND ROUND. FOLLOWING HIS RE-ELECTION, MEDECIN BLAMED HIS POOR SHOWING ON THE PROGRESS MADE BY THE LEFT THROUGHOUT FRANCE AND CALLED FOR A STRONG REACTION ON THE PART OF THE MAJORITY IN ORDER TO AVOID A CATASTROPHE IN THE LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS. THE VOTE FOR LEFT IN NICE WAS A DEFINITE INCREASE OVER 1971 MUNICIPALS, AND ALSO OVER THE 1974 PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION.

IN MENTON, THE INCUMBENT SENATOR FRANCIS PALMEOO, INSTEAD OF WITHDRAWING FROM THE RACE AFTER BEING BEATEN ON THE FIRST ROUND, WAS SOUNDLY BEATEN BY RPR DEPUTY E. AUBERT.

IN GRASSE, GEORGE VASSALO (P.C.) WON A SURPRISING VITCTORY OVER INCUMBENT HERVE DE FONTMICHEL (MAJORITY). CAUSE OF THE INCUMBENT S DEFEAT IS MAINLY ATTRIBUTED TO GENERAL MIS-MANAGEMENT OF THE CITY AS WELL AS WIDESPREAD DISLIKE OF DE FONTMICHEL.

3.CORSICA - IN AJACCIO, CHARLES ORNANO, (BONAPARTIST), WAS RE-ELECTED. JOSE ROSSI, (R.I.), WHO HAD REFUSED TO WITHDRAW AFTER THE FIRST ROUND, SAW HIS ORIGINAL SUPPORTERS DIVIDED BETWEEN THE LEFT AND ABSTENTION. SHORTLY AFTER HIS DEFEAT, ROSSI ANNOUNCED HIS DECISION TO CREATE A LOCAL POLITICAL UNCLASSIFIED

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MOVEMENT TO PREPARE FOR THE LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS. IN CORTE THE INCUMBENT, MICHEL PIERUCCI, (MAJORITY), WAS SURPRISINGLY REELECTED IN SPITE OF HIS HAVING WOUND UP IN THIRD PLACE FOLLOWING THE FIRST ROUND. IN ORDER TO ASSURE HIS REELECTION, PIERUCCI MADE AN ARRANGEMENT WITH THE LEFT : HIS LIST FOR THE SECOND ROUND WAS COMPRISED ON 11 MEMBERS OF HIS FIRST LIST PLUS 11 MEMBERS OF THE COMMON PROGRA LIST.

4. ALPES DE HAUTE PROVENCE - IN A SURPRISE MOVE IN DIGNE, WHICH IS NORMALLY CONSIDERED A LEFTIST STRONGHOLD, MR. RINALDI (R.P.R.) WAS SUCCESSFUL OVER THE COMMON PROGRAM

LIST HEADED BY BOUFFIER (RAD DE GAUCHE). IN THIS DEPARTMENT, WHICH HAS NO CITIES OF OVER 30,000 INHABITANTS, THE LEFT INCREASED IN PERCENTAGE. IN MANOSAQUE, THE R.P.R. INCUMBE CABANNE LOST TO HONDE, RAD DE GAUCHE.

5. HAUTES ALPES - PAUL DIJOUD (R.I.) WAS SURPRISINGLY VICTORIOUS IN HIS BID FOR RE-ELECTION IN BRIANCON AGAINST A

COMMON PROGRAM LIST, (HEADED BY A SOCIALIST) WHICH WQAS FORMED
FOLLOWING FIRST ROUND.

MURPHY

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Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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